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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/814,704	03/30/2004	Hiroharu Sakai	16869N-112400US	7216

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EXAMINER

GUPTA, PARUL H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2627

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/16/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/814,704	Applicant(s) SAKAI ET AL.	
	Examiner Parul Gupta	Art Unit 2627	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 March 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 4-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1,8 and 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 4-7 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 and 4-9 are pending for examination as interpreted by the examiner. The amendment and arguments filed on 3/5/07 were considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 8, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jacobs et al., US Patent 5,802,032 in view of Nagasawa et al., US Patent 6,016,297.

Regarding claim 1, Jacobs et al. discloses a write power control method of an optical disk inserted in optical disk drive before writing to the inserted optical disk ("test recording" of column 8, lines 13-16), the method comprising: determining a relationship on an optimum write power with respect to radial position of the inserted disk (column 8, lines 5-16 explains how the write power is dependent on the radial position); and controlling the optimum write power depending on the radial position of the inserted optical disk based on the determined relationship (column 8, lines 5-16 explains how interpolation, which gives the determined relationship, can be used to determine the write power of any radial position of the disk). Jacobs et al. does not but Nagasawa et al. teaches obtaining the push-pull signal amplitude (purpose is served by the signal determining the linear velocity of the light spot) at at least two measuring positions, including an inner circumferential portion and an outer circumferential portion of a recording surface (definition of different radial positions), in a

radial direction of the inserted optical disk (column 6, lines 15-31); determining optimum power information associated with the radial positions of the disk (according to graph shown in figure 7). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the concept of using the amplitude of the push-pull signal at different radial positions to obtain the optimum write power as taught by Nagasawa et al. into the system of Jacobs et al. The motivation would be to reduce tracking errors (column 2, lines 30-46).

Regarding claim 8, Jacobs et al. discloses the write power determining method, wherein the relationship of the optimum write power with respect to the radial position is determined with an interpolation between an optimum write power obtained in the inner circumferential portion and the outer circumferential portion of the inserted optical disk (column 8, lines 5-16 explains that the recording device can obtain the optimum write power for any radius on the disc by using interpolation of different radii, one of which would represent the inner circumferential portion while the other represents the outer circumferential portion).

Regarding claim 9, Jacobs et al. discloses the write power determining method, further comprising storing information associated with the optimum write power into memory (done on the information carrier as given in column 8, lines 6-9).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 4-7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. None of the prior art of record, taken individually or in combination, discloses the given equations used to determine the write power.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to all claims have been considered but are not persuasive. Applicant contends that the features described in the amendment such as "determining a relationship of an optimum write power with respect to a radial position of the inserted disk based on the obtained push-pull signal" and "controlling the optimum write power depending on the radial position of the inserted optical disk based on the determined relationship" are not taught by the references. However, the arguments are not persuasive due to the rejection given above for claim 1.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

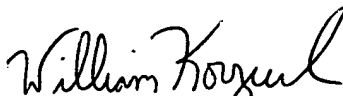
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Parul Gupta whose telephone number is 571-272-5260. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday, from 9:30 AM to 7 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bill Korzuch can be reached on 571-272-7589. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

PHG
4/5/07


WILLIAM KORZUCH
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